

From: ["Thomas. Hattie" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE>](mailto:Thomas.Hattie@EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE)
To:
CC:
Date: 11/1/2013 3:13:53 PM
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 11/1/13

OPA Daily Digest for 11/1/13

Congressional Inquiries:

Rep. Emanuel Cleaver (Mo.) 10/29/13. Recommendation for an EPA position. Due: 11/13/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Deb Fischer (Neb.) 10/29/13. Concerns regarding the process and training of licensed EPA building inspectors. Due: 11/13/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Roy Blunt (Mo.) 9/25/13. Constituent concerns about property that they own considered as an abandoned hazardous waste site. Due: 10/9/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo.) 9/23/13. Subcontractor complaints of payments not received for work done for lead removal at North County Schools in St. Francois County. Due: 10/9/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

State Government Inquiries:

None

Press Inquiries:

Salina (Kan.) Journal – Erin Mathews – 10/30/13 – Questions about responses to mercury spills. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

Kansas Public Radio – Steven Kiranda – 11/1/13 – Questions regarding Region 7 listening session on Nov. 4 at the regional office. Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (closed)

Environmental Stories:

Cherokee Chronicle Times (Iowa) - Experts to discuss Region 7 EPA Iowa DNR work plan agreement and its impact on livestock farmers - 11/1/13 - The Coalition to Support Iowa's Farmers (CSIF) is offering a webinar for livestock and poultry farmers to explain the impact of the EPA Region 7 and Iowa DNR "Work Plan Agreement" on Wednesday, Nov. 13, from noon to 1:15 p.m. <http://www.chronicletimes.com/story/2019607.html>

Hannibal Courier-Post (Mo.) - Local bodies of water added to DNR's watch list - 10/30/13 - The Salt River at the Clarence Cannon Dam, the Monroe City Lake and old Bowling Green Lake are three of 56 new additions to the state of Missouri's biennial draft list of impaired waters. <http://www.hannibal.net/article/20131030/NEWS/131039956>

Des Moines Register - Bonus column: Ron Rosmann writes about the overuse of ag chemicals - 11/1/13 - Biotechnology is not the silver bullet proponents say it is. Nor is the whole story shared about problems and flaws of a science that does not take the necessary integrated approach to growing crops.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20131101/OPINION01/311010050/Bonus-column-Ron-Rosmann-writes-about-the-overuse-of-ag-chemicals?archive>

Lincoln Journal-Star (Neb.) - Editorial, 11/1: Do climate study the right way - 11/1/13 - Most Nebraskans are sensible, prudent types like the ant in Aesop's fable, who lays in a store of corn while the grasshopper plays and sings. But occasionally a few Nebraskans become confused and lose their bearings.

http://journalstar.com/news/opinion/editorial/editorial-do-climate-study-the-right-way/article_392e1202-e86f-5368-9482-017b5643c177.html

Lincoln Journal-Star (Neb.) - Lincoln drivers give ethanol less than full embrace - 11/1/13 - Little more than a month after the oil industry changed pipeline deliveries and nudged drivers of Lincoln's cars and trucks toward an ethanol diet, the surprise might be that ethanol-free fuel still has a strong presence in the market.

http://journalstar.com/news/local/lincoln-drivers-give-ethanol-less-than-full-embrace/article_57984fbc-0a53-5ed5-8928-bcd7d753b0a3.html

AgWeb - Sportsmen Against Ethanol? - 11/1/13 - Could outdoorsmen be the latest opponent of the renewable fuels standard? The Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation held a briefing this week to look at the renewable fuel standard's impact on wildlife and one of the country's most prolific fisheries.

http://www.agweb.com/article/sportsmen_against_ethanol_NAA_Fran_Howard/

Lincoln Journal Star (Neb.) - Johannis says farm bill could lead to budget deal - 10/31/13 - Sen. Mike Johannis said Thursday he believes Senate-House agreement on a new farm bill could set the stage for a bipartisan budget agreement.

http://journalstar.com/news/state-and-regional/federal-politics/johannis-says-farm-bill-could-lead-to-budget-deal/article_fbc26f87-1972-5285-8020-4e74809f8703.html

Kansas City Kansan - Registration remains open for upcoming BPU energy efficiency workshops - 10/31/13 - The Kansas City Board of Public Utilities (BPU) will host two fall energy efficiency workshops for the community and customers in November.

<http://www.kckansan.com/2013/10/registration-remains-open-for-upcoming.html>

Des Moines Register - Wind energy industry seeing growth; tax credit uncertainty looms - 10/31/13 - Wind energy installations are gaining momentum, but uncertainty looms over the future of a tax credit has helped the industry grow, according to a trade group.

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2013/10/31/wind-energy-industry-seeing-growth-tax-credit-uncertainty-looms/article>

BNA - Court Says Insurer's Refusal to Defend Suits Doesn't Waive Right to Challenge Settlements - 11/1/13 - Under Kansas law, an insurer does not forfeit the right to challenge a policyholder's settlements if it refuses to defend environmental claims and enforcement actions, federal court rules.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=37736833&vname=denotallissues&jd=a0e2x9p6h9&split=0

Inside EPA - Iowa Regulators Set High Bar For Crafting Novel Numeric Nutrient Limits - 10/31/13 - Iowa regulators say they will consider environmentalists' calls to craft numeric nutrient limits for key state waters, despite a state board's recent decision rejecting environmentalists' petition.

<http://insideepa.com/201310312451457/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/iowa-regulators-set-high-bar-for-crafting-novel-numeric-nutrient-limits/menu-id-95.html>

New York Times - White House Will Focus on Climate Shifts While Trying to Cut Greenhouse Gases - 11/1/13 - The White House is expected to take new steps on Friday to help society adapt to global warming, an acknowledgment that worldwide efforts to control emissions will be inadequate to head off big climatic shifts.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/11/01/science/earth/white-house-will-focus-on-climate-shifts-while-trying-to-cut-greenhouse-gases.html>

The Hill (blog) - Seeing through the 'War on Coal' smokescreen - 10/31/13 - As a retired coal miner, the son of a coal miner, and the father of a coal miner, I'm curious about Congress' recent attacks on the EPA and claims of a "war on coal." These claims are nothing but a distraction from the real needs of coalfield communities.

<http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/energy-environment/188592-seeing-through-the-war-on-coal-smokescreen>

The Hill (blog) - White House: US will publish fossil fuel subsidy totals - 10/31/13 - The White House will begin publishing annual tallies of federal subsidies for petroleum and coal. The plan is part of a wider set of "open government" commitments announced Thursday.

<http://thehill.com/blogs/ballot-box/188848-white-house-us-will-publish-fossil-fuel-subsidy>

[totals](#)

Inside Climate - Canadian Gov't Emissions Report Undermines Keystone Pipeline Pitch - 10/31/13 - The U.S. and Canada are going in opposite directions on CO2 emissions, data reveal, with possible implications for Obama's Keystone pipeline decision. <http://insideclimatenews.org/news/20131031/canadian-govt-emissions-report-undermines-keystone-pipeline-pitch>

Grist - Bill would boost renewables to 25 percent by 2025, has no chance in hell of passing - 11/1/13 - Most states in the union require utilities to generate a certain percentage of their electricity from renewable sources. A new bill in Congress would take that strategy national. <http://grist.org/news/bill-would-boost-renewables-to-25-percent-by-2025-has-no-chance-in-hell-of-passing/>

Bloomberg - Solar Rebound Beating Dot-Com Recovery as Demand Surges - 10/31/13 - Solar industry manufacturers are rebounding from a two-year slump faster than technology companies recovered from the dot-com bubble of the late 1990s. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-10-31/solar-rebound-beating-dot-com-recovery-as-demand-surges.html>

NPR - Heat, Drought Draw Farmers Back To Sorghum, The 'Camel Of Crops' (+audio) - 10/31/13 - Much of the world is turning hotter and dryer these days, and it's opening new doors for a water-saving cereal that's been called "the camel of crops": sorghum. In an odd twist, this old-fashioned crop even seems to be catching on among consumers who are looking for "ancient grains" that have been relatively untouched by modern agriculture. <http://www.npr.org/blogs/thesalt/2013/10/31/231509864/heat-drought-draw-farmers-back-to-sorghum-the-camel-of-crops>

ClimateWire - More than half of irrigated regions are under water stress -- study - 11/1/13 - A quarter of the croplands around the world lack adequate water, according to an interactive map released by the World Resources Institute yesterday. <http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/stories/1059989811/feed>

ClimateWire - When it comes to water, most global companies are 'misguided' managers -- CDP report - 11/1/13 - Results of a new survey suggest that although global companies are starting to regard water risks as more pressing than ever before, their strategies to deal with this issue in a larger context remain nascent. <http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/stories/1059989812/feed>

Greenwire - Vitter accuses agency of 'co-opting and coercing' states on air rules - 10/31/13 - Rather than working with state governments on Clean Air Act oversight, U.S. EPA is "co-opting and coercing" states by rejecting their regulatory plans and entering into legal agreements with environmental groups, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee's top Republican charged in a report released today. <http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059989768/feed>

Greenwire - U.S. Chamber pans EPA for holding listening tour in non-coal states - 10/31/13 - The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is keeping up the pressure on U.S. EPA for scheduling listening sessions on a forthcoming greenhouse gas power plant rule mostly in states with very little reliance on coal-fired electric generation. <http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059989765/feed>

Yale Environment 360 - Smaller Rise in Global CO2 Emissions May Be Sign of Permanent Slowing - 10/31/13 - Global carbon dioxide emissions grew last year at about half the rate of the past decade, possibly signaling a permanent slowdown of CO2 emissions, says a new report. http://e360.yale.edu/digest/smaller_rise_in_global_co2_emissions_may_be_sign_of_permanent_slowing/3991/

BNA - EPA Ignoring Clean Air Act Role Of States, Senate Republicans Say - 11/1/13 - The Environmental Protection Agency has repeatedly ignored the principle of cooperative federalism in administering the Clean Air Act, Senate Republicans said in a report issued Oct. 31. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=37736857&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e2y5u4e2&split=0

BNA - Feinstein, Coburn Drafting Legislation To Remove RFS Corn Ethanol Mandate - 11/1/13 - The renewable fuel standard's mandate requiring the use of conventional ethanol would be removed under legislation being drafted by Sens. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) and Tom Coburn (R-Okla.), the California senator told Bloomberg BNA Oct. 31. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=37736843&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e2y5g0j6&split=0

BNM - Markey Offers Bill That Would Require Utilities to Obtain Renewable Electricity - 11/1/13 - Senate legislation introduced Oct. 31 would require electric utilities to obtain a minimum of 25 percent of their electricity from renewable sources such as wind, solar, hydro, geothermal and biomass by 2025.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=37736849&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e2y5n3a5&split=0

BNM - Much of Estimated 200-Year Coal Supply Too Deep to Mine Profitably, Report Finds - 11/1/13 - The U.S. could run out of its domestic coal supplies in 20 years or less, according to a report by a clean energy group. The report released Oct. 30 by Clean Energy Action found that most of that coal is buried too deep to be mined at a profit, leading to higher costs for producers and consumers. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=37736834&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e2y3c6g8&split=0

BNM - Impacts on Public Lands to be Mitigated With 'Landscape-Level' Measures, Jewell Says - 11/1/13 - Interior Secretary Sally Jewell issued her first secretarial order Oct. 31 to provide for "landscape-level" mitigation measures to compensate for project impacts on federal lands. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=37736850&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e2y5t0d1&split=0

BNM - EPA Releases Draft Strategy to Provide Common Approach to Groundwater Cleanup - 11/1/13 - The EPA releases a draft strategy intended to provide a common approach to cleaning up contaminated groundwater at superfund sites. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=37736838&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e2y4z7h2&split=0

BNM - Citizen Suits Help Shape EPA Policy, But Industry Wants Role in Settlement Talks - 11/1/13 - The lawsuit against the Environmental Protection Agency sought to lay out a compelling case why the agency should regulate mercury emissions from power plants, particularly those fueled by coal or oil. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=37736830&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e0f5c6p3&split=0

Inside EPA - EPA Poised To Issue RCRA CO2 Waiver But Declines Clarification On EOR - 10/31/13 - EPA is poised to soon release its final Resource Conservation & Recovery Act (RCRA) rule for excluding carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) projects from strict hazardous waste regulations. <http://insideepa.com/201310312451460/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-poised-to-issue-rcra-co2-waiver-but-declines-clarification-on-eor/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - Observers Fear Takings Ruling Creates Uncertainty For Wetlands Mitigation - 10/31/13 - Legal observers say it is too soon to know if a recent Supreme Court ruling regarding unconstitutional takings of private property will hamper local governments seeking mitigation for damage to wetlands. <http://insideepa.com/201310312451458/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/observers-fear-takings-ruling-creates-uncertainty-for-wetlands-mitigation/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - Internal Evaluation Urges EPA To Overhaul Water Office's Climate Strategy - 11/1/13 - An internal EPA evaluation of the Office of Water's (OW) climate change strategy finds that the office is not adequately implementing its plan due to a number of factors, including lack of management and staff "buy-in," and recommends major structural changes within the office to better address climate change impacts on water resources. <http://insideepa.com/201311012451627/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/internal-evaluation-urges-epa-to-overhaul-water-offices-climate-strategy/menu-id-95.html>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

EPA Region 7 to Host November 4 Public Listening Session in Lenexa, Kan., on Reducing Carbon Pollution from Existing Power Plants – 10/31/13 – Contact: David Bryan, 7433

Progressive Nutrition of Norfolk, Neb., to Pay \$125,000 for Settlement of Federal Pesticide Violations – 11/1/13 – Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

11/4/13 – Public Meeting – Carbon Pollution Standards, Regional Office. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

***11/6/13** – Senior Staff Meeting with Administrator McCarthy, Regional Office. Contact: Hattie Thomas, 7762

***11/6/13** – All Hands Meeting with Administrator McCarthy, Regional Office. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555

***11/6/78** - Agricultural Advisory/Roundtable, Oak Grove, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

***11/6/13** – Luncheon- Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

***11/6/13** – Environmental Justice Event with Congressman Emanuel Cleaver and Black Health Care Coalition, Kansas City, Mo.
Contacts: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 and Althea Moses, 7649

***11/6/13** – Tour of the Green Impact Zone. Contacts: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 and Althea Moses, 7649

11/7/13 – CFC Kick-Off Event, Regional Office. Contact: Becky Dolph, 7281

11/14/13 – National Association of Farm Broadcasting Trade Talk, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

12/16/13 – Interagency Environmental Leadership Council, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Ron Hammerschmidt, 7566

12/3/13 – SES National Executive Leadership Development Conference, Washington DC. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

12/9/13 – Region 7 Senior Management Retreat, National Archives at Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551

12/18/13 – Missouri Agribusiness Association Annual Convention, Columbia, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

12/19/13 – Four State Directors Meeting, Regional Office, Wendy Lubbe, 7551

DRA:

***11/6/13** – Senior Staff Meeting with Administrator McCarthy, Regional Office. Contact: Hattie Thomas, 7762

***11/6/13** – All Hands Meeting with Administrator McCarthy, Regional Office. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555

***11/6/13** – Environmental Justice Event with Congressman Emanuel Clever and the Black Health Care Coalition, Kansas City, Mo.
Contacts: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 and Althea Moses, 7649

***11/6/13** – Tour of the Green Impact Zone, Kansas City Mo. Contacts: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 and Althea Moses, 7649

***11/14/13** – Environmental Protection in Indian Country Training, Regional Office. Contact: Jane Kloeckner, 7235

11/14/13 – National Association of Farm Broadcasting Trade Talk, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

***12/5-6/13** – Executive Management Council, Washington DC. Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

12/9/13 – Region 7 Senior Management Retreat, National Archives at Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551

12/19/13 – Four State Directors Meeting, Regional Office, Wendy Lubbe, 7551

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

11/4/13 – Green House Gas Listening Session, Regional Office, Josh Tapp, 7606

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

11/4-5/13 – Green Impact Zone Essential Employability Skills Training, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Althea Moses, 7649

11/14-15/13 – Carter Carburetor Public Meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Pamela Johnson, 7480

11/13-15/13 – Santee Sioux Healthy Homes Training, Niobrara, Neb. Contact: Karim Dawani, 7289

12/4 – 12/6/13 – Senior Enforcement Managers Meeting, Washington, DC. Contact: DeAndré Singletary, 7373

ENSV

None

PLMG

11/5/13 - KC Small Business Networking Event for Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Businesses, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Chester Stovall, 7549

11/5/13 - Small Business Entrepreneurial Graduation Conference, Lee's Summit, Mo. Contact: Chester Stovall, 7549

11/5/13 - American Indian Enterprise Business Council Annual Conference, Kansas City, Kan. Contact: Chester Stovall, 7549

11/19/13 - Federal Executive Board and Chamber of Commerce Small Business Planning Meeting, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Chester Stovall, 7549

11/21/13 - GovFest Government Business Services Conference, Overland Park, Kan. Contact: Chester Stovall, 7549

RA/OPA

None

SUPR

11/20-22/13: Oversight of pre-construction activities West Lake Landfill, Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Matthew Jefferson, 7520

11/20/13: Public availability session to discuss DOD vapor intrusion investigation St. Louis Ordnance Plant, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Matthew Jefferson, 7520

WWPD

11/4-6/13 – Annual Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities (CIFA) Conference, Minneapolis, Min. Contacts: Glenn Curtis, 7726, Sabre Germano, 7026

11/6/13 – Missouri Water Quality Standards Effluent Regulations Hearing, Jefferson City, Mo. Contacts: Bob Angelo, 7060, John DeLashmit, 7821

11/6-7/13 – Nebraska Water Environment Association (NWEA) workshop, Kearney, Neb. Contact: Glenn Curtis, 7726

11/18/13 - National Capacity Development & Operator Certification Workshop, Atlanta, Ga. Contact: Bob Dunlevy, 7798

Hattie L. Thomas

Acting Director

Office of Public Affairs

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